(c) if so, what are the reasons for accepting an absolete Australian technology and what purpose it is going to serve-in the Network Management System in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) There is no offer of grant-in-aid from Telecom Australia. But as part of overall cooperation between India and Australia the Austral'an International Development Assistance Bureau has selected Telecom Australia International Ltd. (TAI) to undertake the feasibility study for setting up of Network Management System in India. The report of the study has been received very recently and is under examination.

Illegal Tele-connections in Northern Region

1209. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to a news-item published in the Economic Times, New Delhi, dated 5th September, 1992 capitioned "CBI unearths racket in phone sanctions orders" in Northern India;

(b) if so, what are the places where the CBI conducted searches, list of incriminating documents seized, number of officials arrested including officials of the D.O.T. and what action has so far been taken against each of them;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this is the second case registered by the CBI in connection with fraudulent out of turn telephone sanctions and the earlier case was registered in July, 1992; if so, whether DOT would ascertain the wider ramifications of the rackets of this type; and

(d) whether the Minister is also aware of an I.S.D. racket in Delhi where people could make international calls at very low rates fixed by the organisers, if so, the details thereof and action taken by DOT in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) CBI had conducted searches in Punjab, interrogated persons including officials of the Deptt, of Telecommunications. Two officials of D.O.T. at Delhi were arrested. The CBI investigation is in progress and their final report is awaited.

(c) No, Sir. This is the only case of issue of fake sanctioned registered during the year 1992 by the CBI.

(d) Yes, Sir. In one case a Telecom Official found indulging in such a malprac-t'ce had been arrested recently, with the help of CBI. In another case, a Sub-divisional Officer and his JTO have been suspended for lack of supervision. Active assistance of CBI is being taken to curb such malpractices. Four special Cells of CBI, each under the charge of a Superin-
endent of Police are being set up at Delhi, Madras, Bombay and Calcutta to investigate into such cases. A high level Committee is being constituted for an indepth study of cases of such malpractices and for suggesting remedial measures to curb such malpractices.

Waiting list for Calcutta telephone

1210. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

the number of persons on the waiting list in each telephone exchange in Calcutta; and by when telephone connections are Ukely to be sanctioned to them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : The exchange wise waiting list as on 1-11-92 is given in statement. *(See* below). This waiting list is likely to be cleared by 1995-96 subject to the timely availability of stores and resources.